Naga militant groups and lack of unity amongst them have, however created difficulties in the progress of negotiations.

(b) Government is committed to restoration of peace in the North East and has extended an invitation to all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness to give up the path of violence and to come forward for talks within the four corners of the Constitution.

(c) No, Sir.

Investment in NALCO

†*32. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NALCO is a public sector industrial institution;

(b) if so, the date of its establishment and the total capital investment made in this company upto March, 2002; and

(c) the amount received as dividend by the Government upto March, 2002 from this company?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NALCO is a public sector industrial undertaking. It was established on 7th January in the year 1981 and commissioned in 1987. To begin with, the total capital invested by Government of India in NALCO was Rs. 1288.62 crore. Subsequently, between 1991 and 1994, the Government of India disinvested 12.85 per cent of paid up capital and during the year 1999 the company reduced its capital by 50 per cent. Thus, as on 31st March, 2002, the paid up equity capital of NALCO was Rs. 644.31 crore.

(c) The Government has received an amount of Rs. 739.82 crore as dividend upto March, 2002 from NALCO. In addition, dividend amounting to Rs. 224.61 crore for the financial year 2001-02 has become payable to the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.